



From the NIFA Communications Office

NIFA in the News – Week of April 16, 2012

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In the News

Senator addresses agriculture, economic challenges (Cattle Network 4/13). U.S. Senator Roy Blunt, R-Mo., shared his thoughts on today's political environment with St. Louis Agribusiness Club members and guests at a lunch, co-sponsored by the National Corn Growers Association (NCGA). The senator conveyed his pride in being able to maintain vital support for research and extension at land grant universities, capacity building grants for non-land grant colleges of agriculture, and competitive funding under USDA's Agriculture and Food Research Initiative. [Link](#)

Colorado Ranch Practicum (BC Democrat 4/14). Colorado Cattlemen's Association (CCA) and Colorado State University (CSU) are prepared to offer the Colorado Ranch Practicum component of the Colorado Ranching Legacy Program. The project was supported by the Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program of the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, USDA, Grant 2011-00993. [Link](#)

Transitions: People in Academe (Chronicle of Higher Education 4/15). Sonny Ramaswamy, dean of Oregon State University's College of Agricultural Sciences and director of its Oregon Agricultural Experiment Station, has been named by President Obama to lead the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, in Washington. [Link](#)

Allegheny lands USDA environment science grant (Erie Times News 4/16). Allegheny College has received a \$35,500 grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture. The grant will support research on forest soil carbon quantity and quality led by environmental science professor Rich Bowden. [Link](#)

Government scientist impressed with TSU research (Tennessee State University News 4/16). Highlighting Tennessee State University's history and its role as a land-grant institution, a senior U.S. government scientist and administrator says TSU

researchers have made substantial contributions to prevention of childhood obesity, food safety and security, sustainable bioenergy and climate adaptation. Calling these the five challenge areas of the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), the Acting Director of the agency, Dr. Chavonda Jacobs-Young says TSU is playing an important role in educating the next generation of scientists who will be needed if the United States is to successfully face these challenges. [Link](#)

US barnyards help China super-size food production (Reuters 4/20). Chinese diet demands more protein. American genetics help Chinese breed bigger, healthier animals. It could be challenging for the United States to maintain its technological edge. The pace of public investment in U.S. agricultural research is slowing, and the focus shifting away from on-farm productivity and toward issues such as food safety. The budget at the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, the USDA's arm for funding extramural research, was essentially flat for the past three years - and fell 9 percent in 2012. [Link](#)

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